

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUXEMB 00097 120901Z

51

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FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4281

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0097

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LU, UR

SUBJ: GRAND DUKE'S VISIT TO RUSSIA

REF: LUXEMBOURG 015 (NOTAL)

AMIDST REPORTS THAT THE GRAND DUKE'S TRIP TO THE USSR IS STILL NOT FINALIZED DESPITE ANNOUNCEMENT CONTAINED REFTEL, DCM ASKED MFA SECRETARY GENERAL PIERRE WURTH ON FEBRUARY 11 FOR STATUS REPORT ON VISIT. WURTH ANSWERED THAT PLANS FOR STATE VISIT ARE CURRENTLY FROZEN. AFTER RESISTING INTENSE SOVIET PRESSURE IN EARLY 1974 FOR STATE VISIT IMMEDIATELY AFTER MAY 1974 LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, GOL FINALLY INFORMED SOVIETS LAST MONTH THAT STATE VISIT COULD BE SCHEDULED IN MAY 1975. HOWEVER, GOL INSISTED AS CONDITION FOR VISIT THAT PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER THORN, WHO WOULD ACCOMPANY GRAND DUKE, BE RECEIVED AS CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT DURING VISIT BY BREZHNEV AND KOSYGIN. SOVIETS HAVE NOT YET REPLIED TO GOL'S DEMAND AND VISIT WILL NOT BE SCHEDULED UNLESS SOVIETS AGREE TO GOL CONDITION. WITH STATE VISITS OF BELGIAN AND DANISH SOVEREIGNS SCHEDULED FOR 1975, AND UNCERTAINTIES SURROUNDING BREZHNEV'S HEALTH, WURTH
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PAGE 02 LUXEMB 00097 120901Z

DOES NOT EXPECT SOVIETS TO REPLY SOON. SINCE THE GOL

IS NOT ANXIOUS FOR STATE VISIT, WURTH SAID THAT BOTH
SIDES SEEM CONTENT TO PUT OFF SCHEDULING FOR THE TIME
BEING.FARKAS

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NNN

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